

Record of Determination for a partial and temporary closure of Stanton and Lincoln Parks, National Capital Parks East to Implement the Turf Renovation Plan

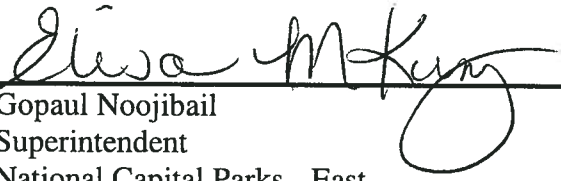
Pursuant to 36 CFR 1.5(a) and NPS Management Policies 1.4.7.2 (2006), Stanton and Lincoln Parks, managed by National Capital Parks - East, are temporarily and partially closing limited park areas to implement a Turf Renovation Plan in sections of Stanton and Lincoln Parks. The closure will take place October 14, 2014, to June 30, 2015, to repair and rehabilitate the heavily used recreation areas. The following turf panels in Stanton Park will be closed for turf renovation; center eastern panel, center panel around the Nathanael Greene Statue and the playground turf panel. In Lincoln Park, the center turf panel and southeast turf panel directly adjacent to the center panel will be closed. The closed areas will be fenced off and temporarily inaccessible to foot traffic until June 30, 2015.

This temporary and partial park closure is necessary due to the park's need to provide high quality turf areas for park users. This project will improve soil health and allow time for proper seed germination, root growth and to restore identified turf areas with grass tolerant of heavy use. The impact of this plan will enhance the recreational use and enjoyment by the public once completed.

Less restrictive measures will not suffice due to the necessity for the proper separation of visitor and government employee activities and to allow proper seed germination to take place in Stanton and Lincoln Parks. Nearby identified turf panels in Stanton and Lincoln Parks will remain open to the public during the turf renovation project.

As such, the closure does not constitute impairment to park resources and values and will not adversely affect the park's natural, aesthetic or cultural values. It does not require significant modification to the resource management objectives. Accordingly, the National Park Service determines that publication as rulemaking in the Federal Register is unwarranted under 36 CFR 1.5(c). This decision is consistent with Stanton and Lincoln Park's past partial and temporary park closures. This decision is also consistent with the legal opinion of the Office of the Solicitor and past judicial adjudications. Spiegel v. Babbitt, 855 F.Supp. 402 (D.D.C.1994).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 1.7, notice of this temporary and partial closure will be made by using fifty foot sections of snow fence at Stanton and Lincoln Park and the posting of signs along sections of the fence. Finally, pursuant to 36 CFR 1.5(c), this determination is available to the public upon request.

for 
Gopaul Noojibail
Superintendent
National Capital Parks - East

10/17/14

Date